

VZCZCXYZ0003  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLO #2742/01 3431613  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 091613Z DEC 09  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4210  
INFO RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 002742

SIPDIS  
NOFORN

NSC FOR FROMAN  
TREASURY FOR BRAINARD, SOBEL, BAKER, WINN

EO 12958 DECL: 12/03/2019  
TAGS ECON, PGOV, UK  
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER STILL FOCUSED ON TOBIN TAX,  
DISAPPOINTED IN U.S. POSITION  
REF: LONDON 2548

Classified By: Ambassador Louis Susman for reasons 1.4 b and d.

1. (C/NF) Summary. Prime Minister Brown continues to press hard for international adoption of a Tobin Tax, despite being aware of U.S. opposition. Prime Minister Raises Tax and Bonuses with Ambassador  
-----

2. (C/NF) Prime Minister Brown continues to press hard for international adoption of some form of a Tobin Tax on financial transactions, despite

3. (C/NF) The Prime Minister also has raised with the Ambassador the issue of bank bonuses, and has repeatedly queried what the U.S. government's position is. Background - Brown at St. Andrews  
-----

4. (C/NF) During the November 6-7 G-20 Ministerial in St. Andrews, Prime Minister Brown unexpectedly focused on the Tobin Tax - a tax on financial transactions. Continuous Campaign  
-----

5. (SBU/NF) The Prime Minister, Chancellor Darling and Financial Services Authority Chairman Lord Turner have, since St. Andrews, continued to draw attention to the Tobin Tax. In a November 25, Communique, Opposition Joins the Bandwagon  
-----

6. (C/NF) Labour Party officials are not the only ones expressing disappointment with the U.S. position on the Tobin Tax. Baroness Shirley Williams

7. (C/NF) The UK financial sector has been rather muted in its comments, preferring to remain silent unless and until the government makes an announcement.

8. (C/NF) Comment: The Prime Minister's position is largely being driven by domestic politics, as a way to be seen as "punishing the banks." For more information, visit London's Classified Website: [http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:United\\_Kingdom](http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:United_Kingdom)  
Susman